

WATER COMMITTEE MINUTES

JANUARY 24, 2007 – 3:00 P.M.

Present: Chairman Callanan; Supervisors Connors, Daly, Gutheil, A. Johnson, and Wood; Spencer Hellwig, Mgmt. Analyst; Jasper Nolan, Saratoga County Republican Chairman; Dan Loewenstein, Malcolm Pirnie; Andrea DiDomenico, Assistant County Attorney; Mark Rider, County Attorney; Jim Carminucci, Jack Lebowitz, Lemery Greisler; Allen Heflin, Town of Malta Resident; Press.

Chairman Callanan called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance.

On a motion made by Ms. Daly, seconded by Mr. Wood the minutes of the December 19, 2006 meeting were approved unanimously.

Chairman Callanan appointed Mr. Johnson as Vice Chair of the Water Committee. Mr. Johnson accepted the appointment.

Mr. Callanan requested a resolution to accept FAB grant funding and amending the budget in the amount of \$10 million.

A motion was made by Mr. Connors, seconded by Mr. Wood to approve a resolution to accept FAB grant funding in the amount of \$10 million and amending the budget thereto. Unanimous.

Mr. Johnson asked, when the responsibility is transferred to the County Water Authority, will the money be transferred? Mr. Callanan replied, yes.

Mr. Callanan said, this committee has worked for the past couple of years to bring the water project to the point where it has to be turned over to the Saratoga County Water Authority, which has been reconstituted by the Board of Supervisors. The decisions that will have to be made by them at this point are decisions that are going to carry through the project, i.e. the financial part of the project, how it is going to be bonded, how it is going to be taken care of, and the construction contracts.

Mr. Callanan said, this is the right project at the right time for the right county and it is time for it to be moved out of the Board of Supervisors. The Water Committee will continue to stand as a liaison to the Water Authority, and at the same time commit to transfer any grant monies or other monies associated with the project, to the Water Authority. From that point on, it will be up to the Water Authority to take care of the financing and the construction of the project.

Mr. Callanan said, at this time \$3.7 million has been expended, and at this time to complete the contracts in progress, with \$780,000 in bills remaining outstanding.

Out of the \$10 million in FAB money, \$3.7 million will probably stay with the county in order to make whole with the County. The rest of the money will be transferred over to the Water Authority. The \$3.7 million is part of the \$67 million for the whole project, he said.

Mr. Gutheil asked what the circumstances were with regard to money and the contract that was signed with Pall Corporation?

Mr. Carr said, the Pall contract was in three phases: shop drawings, pilot test and the purchase of the membrane filtration units. The shop drawings have been provided and the pilot test was conducted. Both of those portions of the contract have been paid. The purchase of the actual membrane filtration units will not be paid for until they are ready to be installed.

Mr. Gutheil suggested having a memorandum of understanding with the Water Authority.

Mr. Callanan said, as soon as the Water Authority takes over, the other grant monies would begin flowing.

Mr. Callanan said, the Water Authority would most likely have to hire a Director to begin working on finances and contracts. Work is currently being done with the low bidders to facilitate an extension.

Mr. Gutheil said, I would like to ensure that the Board of Supervisors is in complete agreement with the Water Authority on a business plan.

Mr. Callanan suggested adding to the resolution that the County and Board of Supervisors should come up with a business plan that will protect all entities involved.

A motion was made by Ms. Daly, seconded by Mr. Connors to approve a resolution and agreement authorizing the Saratoga County Board of Supervisors to commit the Saratoga County Water Treatment Plant & Transmission Facilities Project to the Saratoga County Water Authority. Unanimous.

Ms. Daly said, this is a project that the Board of Supervisors has been working on for many years. I am very happy that we are moving this on to the Water Authority, she said. We are moving on one of the best projects that the county has seen in a very long time, to ensure high quality water to the residents of the county, not only now, but also in the years to come. This tells us that we have a vision and direction, she said.

Mr. Callanan said, this is a great mile stone that the Water Committee has come this far, and now we are at the point where we can transfer the project to the Water Authority and get the job done.

Mr. Gutheil said, this shows that the county supports a regional system, not to benefit one town or industry, but to benefit the whole Northway corridor with water, with the potential to expand beyond that corridor.

A motion was made by Mr. Connors, seconded by Mr. Wood to adjourn to Executive Session for the purpose of Litigation. Unanimous.

A motion was made by Ms. Daly, seconded by Mr. Gutheil to reopen to Public Session. Unanimous.

Mr. Heflin from the town of Malta said, I have 1,500 customers that could potentially benefit from the County Water System. He asked if the County would give consideration.

Mr. Callanan said, this is a transmission line, and if anyone would like to connect they would have the ability to do so, but the distribution is not the domain of this committee. He said the Town of Malta would have to handle the distribution and then the county would provide the water.

Mr. Heflin was encouraged to speak with Malta officials.

On a motion made by Ms. Daly, seconded by Mr. Wood the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Sansom